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Whitneyville Agency Records

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Finding aid written in English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department

5729 Raymond H. Fogler Library

University of Maine

Orono, ME 04469-5729

207.581.1686

um.library.spc@maine.edu

URL: <http://www.library.umaine.edu/speccoll>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department
Creator:	Whitneyville Agency
Title:	Whitneyville Agency Records
ID:	SpC MS 0683
Date [inclusive]:	1853-1885
Date [bulk]:	1853-1868 (bulk)
Physical Description:	1 linear foot (1 box)
Physical Location:	
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Three volumes of financial information about the operation of the Whitneyville Agency, a group of businessmen involved in land, lumber, and railroad transactions in the areas of Calais, Middle Falls, Whitneyville, and Machias, Maine.

Preferred Citation

Whitneyville Agency Records, SpC MS 0683, [Folder No.], Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department, University of Maine, Orono, Maine

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Historical Note

The Eastern Mill and Land Company, the forerunner of the Whitneyville Agency, was formed in 1841 by a group of landowners and lumbermen, especially Joseph Whitney of Calais, Maine. Whitney owned sawmills at Middle Falls, later called Whitneyville, near Machias, Maine. In order to ship its lumber at the port in Machias, the company began constructing a railroad from Whitneyville to Machiasport in 1839. John Palmer, Jr. directed the building of the railroad, assisted by Cornelius Sullivan, an immigrant from Ireland. Called the Palmer and Machiasport Railroad, it was completed in 1843. By 1866, James D. Pope was president of the railroad and Sullivan was treasurer, general manager, freight agent and engineer. In 1869 he bought seven-eighths of the Eastern Land and Mill Company, changing its name

in 1870 to the Whitneyville Agency and the name of the railroad to the Whitneyville and Machiasport Railroad. Sullivan's family also managed the general store in Whitneyville for many years.

The production of lumber at the Whitneyville sawmills reached its peak in 1875, dropping quickly after that until it ceased entirely in 1892. Sullivan soon dissolved the Whitneyville Agency and sold the train engines in 1896. The Agency mills and machinery were destroyed in a fire in 1902.

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Scope and Contents

The collection contains three volumes of financial information about the operation of the Whitneyville Agency.

The journal, 1853-1860, is a daybook recording freight charges primarily for lumber and laths. Individuals and companies mentioned frequently include S.W. Pope and Co., William. E. Pennell, John F. Harmon, Humphrey Desmond, and James Miller.

The journal, 1857-1868, records financial information about stumpage, labor, wood sold, and general bills paid by the Whitneyville Agency.

The ledger, 1857-1885, lists accounts held by various people and companies, with expenditures and credits for lumber, groceries, equipment, labor, etc.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

Kept at Fogler Library's offsite storage facility. One week's notice required for retrieval.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Whitneyville Agency records were a gift from Dwight B. Demeritt, Jr., on October 22, 1997.

Use Restrictions

Information on literary rights available in the Library.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Ledgers (Account books)
- Whitneyville Agency

Collection Inventory

Records of the Whitneyville Agency		
Title/Description	Instances	
Journal, 1853-1860	Box 1	Folder 1
Journal, 1857-1868	Box 1	Folder 2
Ledger, 1857-1885	Box 1	Folder 3

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